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The Inter-American Foundation is an independent Federal agency that supports social and economic development in Latin America and the Caribbean. It makes grants primarily to private, local, and community organizations that carry out self-help projects.

The Inter-American Foundation (IAF) was created in 1969 (22 U.S.C. 290f) as an experimental U.S. foreign assistance program. IAF works in Latin America and the Caribbean to promote equitable, participatory, and sustainable self-help development by awarding grants directly to local organizations throughout the region. It also enters into partnerships with public and private sector entities to scale up support and mobilize local, national, and international resources for grassroots development. From all of its

innovative funding experiences, IAF extracts lessons learned and best practices to share with other donors and development practitioners throughout the hemisphere.

IAF is governed by a nine-person Board of Directors appointed by the President with the advice and consent of the Senate. Six members are drawn from the private sector and three from the Federal Government. The Board of Directors appoints the President of IAF.

For further information, contact the Office of the President, Inter-American Foundation, 901 North Stuart Street, Arlington, VA 22203. Phone, 703-306-4301. Internet, www.iaf.gov.

MERIT SYSTEMS PROTECTION BOARD

1615 M Street NW., Fifth Floor, Washington, DC 20419
 Phone, 202-653-7200. Internet, www.mspb.gov.

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 Clerk of the Board
 Director, Financial and Administrative
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[For the Merit Systems Protection Board statement of organization, see the *Code of Federal Regulations*, Title 5, Part 1200]

The Merit Systems Protection Board protects the integrity of the Federal personnel merit systems and the rights of Federal employees. In overseeing the personnel practices of the Federal Government, the Board conducts special studies of the merit

systems, hears and decides charges of wrongdoing and employee appeals of adverse agency actions, and orders corrective and disciplinary actions when appropriate.

The Merit Systems Protection Board is a successor agency to the United States Civil Service Commission, established by act of January 16, 1883 (22 Stat. 403). Reorganization Plan No. 2 of 1978 (5 U.S.C. app.) redesignated part of the Commission as the Merit Systems Protection Board.

Activities

The Board has responsibility for hearing and adjudicating appeals by Federal employees of adverse personnel actions, such as removals, suspensions, and demotions. It also resolves cases involving reemployment rights, the denial of periodic step increases in pay, actions against administrative law judges, and charges of prohibited personnel practices, including charges in connection with whistleblowing. The Board has the authority to enforce its decisions and to order corrective and

disciplinary actions. An employee or applicant for employment involved in an appealable action that also involves an allegation of discrimination may ask the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission to review a Board decision. Final decisions and orders of the Board can be appealed to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit.

The Board reviews regulations issued by the Office of Personnel Management and has the authority to require agencies to cease compliance with any regulation that could constitute a prohibited personnel practice. It also conducts special studies of the civil service and other executive branch merit systems and reports to the President and the Congress on whether the Federal work force is being adequately protected against political abuses and prohibited personnel practices.

Regional Offices—Merit Systems Protection Board

Region	Address	Director	Telephone
Atlanta Regional Office	401 W. Peachtree St. NW., Atlanta, GA 30308	Thomas J. Lanphear	404-730-2755
Central Regional Office	31st Fl., 230 S. Dearborn St., Chicago, IL 60604	Martin W. Baumgaertner	312-353-2923
Dallas Regional Office ..	Rm. 620, 1100 Commerce St., Dallas, TX 75242	Sharon F. Jackson	214-767-0555
Northeastern Regional Office.	Rm. 501, 2d & Chestnut Sts., Philadelphia, PA 19106.	William L. Boulden	215-597-9960
Washington Regional Office.	Suite 205, 1800 Diagonal Rd., Alexandria, VA 22314.	P.J. Winzer	703-756-6250
Western Regional Office	Suite 400, 4th Fl., 250 Montgomery St., San Francisco, CA 94104.	Amy Dunning	415-705-2935

Field Offices—Merit Systems Protection Board

Region	Address	Chief Administrative Judge	Telephone
Denver, CO	Suite 318, 165 S. Union Blvd., 80228.	Maxanne Witkin	303-969-5101
New York, NY	Rm. 3137A, 26 Federal Plz., 10278	Arthur S. Joseph	212-264-9372

For further information, contact the Merit Systems Protection Board, 1615 M Street NW., Washington, DC 20419. Phone, 202-653-7200 or 800-209-8960. TDD, 800-209-8960. Fax, 202-653-7130. E-mail, mspb@mspb.gov. Internet, www.mspb.gov.